

# Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

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## Niagara County Legislature supports PB&J drive



Pete Robinson, founder of the Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive, spoke to the Niagara County Legislature on Tuesday about how this year's drive is more important than ever, with so many families struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Responding to his presentation, the legislature donated two carts full of jars of peanut butter and jelly.

In addressing the elected leaders, Robinson said, "You have stood with us for the 11 years and, as a matter of fact, this drive was started in this very building. But what is even greater is outside of these walls: Many of our Niagara County residents have given past the point of hurting so we can feed people who need it the most."

More information on the Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive, including drop-off locations, can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/peanutbutterandjellydrive>.

Pictured in the rotunda of the Niagara County Courthouse: Robinson, center, in front of carts of peanut butter and jelly, joined by, from left, Niagara County Legislature Chairwoman Becky Wydysh, Niagara County Manager Rick Updegrave and legislators Randy Bradt, John Syracuse, Mark Grozio, Will Collins, Jesse Gooch, Irene Myers, Rich Andres, Anita Mullane, Dave Godfrey, Chris Robins and Dennis Virtuoso.

## 'Shop small' push continues

BY JOSHUA MALONI

GM/Managing Editor

Mindful of the challenges faced by locally owned stores in a year of the coronavirus, state and local leaders – not to mention credit card companies – strongly encouraged people to "shop small" on Small Business Saturday.

In Lewiston, both warmer weather and incentives offered by the Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce spurred patrons to walk Center Street and scout out different deals on Nov. 28.

President Jennifer Pauly said, "Small Business Saturday brought people to our region with the intent of shopping locally and supporting our member businesses. Every business made sure they had signage regarding masks, social distancing and occupancy limits, and some had extra staff on hand to help with enforcing that message. Overall, the public was very supportive, shopped and were patient and understanding regarding waiting in lines to get into the stores and dining establishments. It was a great day for our businesses despite COVID and restrictions."

"The chamber gave out over \$1,200 in River Region gift certificates to be used specifically on Small Business Saturday at

SEE FOLLOWING, on Page 9

## Shoreline erosion work underway on Lake Ontario

Porter rehab project progressing; Corps project eyed at Old Fort Niagara

### ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY TERRY DUFFY

Editor-in-Chief

Despite the near-constant disruptions of COVID-19 throughout 2020, erosion rehab work along the Lake Ontario shoreline in Niagara County is slowly beginning to move forward.

Recently, the Town of Porter took a major step in addressing a nearly \$500,000 shoreline improvement project in the Fort Niagara Beach neighborhood. Utilizing \$350,000 in grant funding

obtained under the Community Block Grant Development Program, a stretch of badly eroded lakeshore, owned by the town and located adjacent to the foot of Park Avenue was recently stabilized. Mark Cerrone Construction inserted large boulders and relocated soils to prevent further shore damage.

Utilizing state grant funding, the town is now continuing the shoreline rehab at Fort Niagara Beach with more than \$40,000 in additional shore enhancements expected

to be done by Applied Ecological Services of Grand Island.

This project represents a growing list of shore work now taking place in the county. Under the New York State Lake Ontario Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative announced last year in response to worsening Lake Ontario flooding conditions, 11 lakeshore-area rehab projects are moving ahead in communities stretching from Newfane to Youngstown. Significant projects

SEE CORPS, continued on Page 8



A look at the earlier shore erosion and corrective measures being undertaken by the Town of Porter on the Lake Ontario shoreline.

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